

IN THE CLAIMS:

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1.(original) A method of determining an effective method for control of soil pathogens in a soil comprising the steps of:

measuring the pH of a soil;

measuring the organic carbon content of said soil;

measuring the buffering capacity of said soil;

adding a nitrogen containing material and a pH reducing agent to reduce soil pH below 5.5 when said buffering capacity is below 2 uL H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> g/soil; and

adding a nitrogen containing material and a pH raising agent to raise said pH above 8.5 when said organic carbon content is less than 1.7% by weight.

2. (original) A method of controlling soilborne pathogens in a soil having an organic carbon content less than 1.7% by weight, comprising the step of adding a nitrogen containing material and a pH raising agent to raise soil pH above 8.5.

3. (currently amended) The method of Claim ~~17~~ 1 wherein said nitrogen containing material is selected from a group consisting of animal manures, sewage sludge, animal by-products, chitinous materials, oil- seed materials, urea, NH<sub>4</sub>x and xNO<sub>2</sub> compounds.

4. (currently amended) The method of Claim ~~17~~ 1 wherein said nitrogen containing material is a meat and bone material.

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